

US Army Corps of Engineers

Philadelphia District

Wanamaker Building 100 Penn Square East Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390 ATTN: CENAP-OP-R

Public Notice

Public Notice No.

- -

CENAP-OP-R-2007-999-64

AUG 01 2008

Application No.

CENAP-OP-R-2007-999 (IP)

File No.

CENAP-OP-R-2007-999 (IP)

In Reply Refer to:

REGULATORY BRANCH

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments and recommendations from the public concerning issuance of a Department of the Army permit for the work described below.

APPLICANT:

City of Philadelphia - Capital Program Office

Fairmount Park Commission

One Parkway – 1515 Arch Street, 11th Floor

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

AGENT:

Hunt Engineering Company, Malvern, Pennsylvania

WATERWAY:

Schuylkill River

LOCATION:

Within Fairmount Park, on the easterly side of the Schuylkill River adjacent to the Water Works museum approximately 800 feet downstream of the Fairmount Park dam in Philadelphia at 39° 57' 55.13" north latitude and 75°

11' 00.60" west longitude.

ACTIVITY: Construction of a floating boat docking facility, approximately 3,300 square feet, with ADA handicap access ramps including gangways and floating platform, with concrete filled steel piles in river.

The facility will be controlled by the city and available to the general public and park users during open periods.

An MK9-36 debris defector boom, by Slickbar Products Corportaion, 12" freeboard and 24 " draft, is proposed for use upstream of the dock to deflect any floating debris and to provide protection for the dock structure.

The dock and gangways will be constructed of structural steel with composite timber decking and steel handrails. The dock and gangways will be fabricated off-site and transported to the dock location via barge. Foundations consist of seventeen (17) concrete-filled, fourteen inch (14") diameter, steel pipe piles grouted into the rock river bed. During high water conditions the

dock will be submerged and anchored in place by fixed stops on the piles. Eleven (11) steel H-piles grouted into the rock are proposed for the debris deflector.

Installation of the piles will take place from a barge. The piles will be pre-drilled and grouted into the underlying rock strata. Due to the variable depth and jagged rock riverbed, a water net will be used for sediment control. To minimize the release of grout into the waterway the pre-drilled holes will be socketed with a temporary casing pipe and the piles will be grouted using a tremie pipe inserted between the temporary socket casing and the pile. All drilling spoils will be dewatered through a filter bag placed either on a barge or the esplanade. Drill spoils will be disposed of off-site at Ft. Mifflin.

The main dock portion is 16 feet wide by 54 feet long and is designed to accommodate commercial vessels up to approximately 50 feet in length with a draft that does not exceed 5.5 feet. Specifically, the basis of design accommodates the pontoon type flat bottom "river loop" boats that can transport up to 100 people for tours. While the dock facility will be a city-owned facility, it is anticipated the boats will be operated by private contractors. The facility is not intended for use by private pleasure vessels or for any long term storage or mooring of commercial vessels.

No dredging is necessary and there is no dredging proposed for the project.

Site improvements to replace the paving and landscaping are planned to a portion of the existing esplanade along the river. Work would include maintenance and repair to a portion of a bulkhead. Ornamental fencing and a gate are proposed along the top of the stone bulkhead wall. A platform and floating gangways will be constructed off the stone wall to access the main portion of the dock.

PURPOSE: To provide docking facilities for watercraft and access for people to the existing esplanade adjacent to, and south of, the Water Works Engine House Building as one feature included in the parks' ongoing restoration to promote park use and attract visitors to the region.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work would not affect listed species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the activity's probable impact including its cumulative impacts on the public interest. The decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the work must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the work will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs and welfare of the people. A Department of the Army permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the proposed work should be submitted, in writing, within fifteen (15) days to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3390.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania has reviewed the project (ER 06-8038-101-B) in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1980 and 1992, and the regulations (36 CFR Part 800) of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation as revised in 1999. The Bureau for Historic Preservation concurred that the plans conform to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings and this project will have no adverse effect upon the National Register listed or eligible resource referenced below:

Fairmount Water Works (NHL)
Fairmount Park Historic District

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely effect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The project area is not located in a designated as EFH area.

Informal coordination for this project with the NMFS, Habitat Conservation Division, Highlands, New Jersey occurred during the period of July 10, 2008 to July 16, 2008. NMFS recommended no pile installation from March 1 through June 30 to minimize impacts to migrating anadromous fish. Any permit issued for this proposed project will be conditioned so that pile driving will not be authorized from March 1 through June 30 during any year.

In accordance with Section 307(c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, applicants for Federal Licenses or Permits to conduct an activity affecting land or water uses in a State's coastal zone must provide certification that the activity complies with the State's Coastal Zone Management Program. The applicant has stated that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved State Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program. No permit will be issued until the State has concurred with the applicant's certification or has waived its right to do so. Comments concerning the impact of the proposed and/or existing activity on the State's coastal zone should be sent to this office, with a copy to the State's Office of Coastal Zone Management.

In accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, a Water Quality Certificate is necessary from the State government in which the work is located. Any comments concerning the work described above which relate to Water Quality considerations should be sent to this office with a copy to the State.

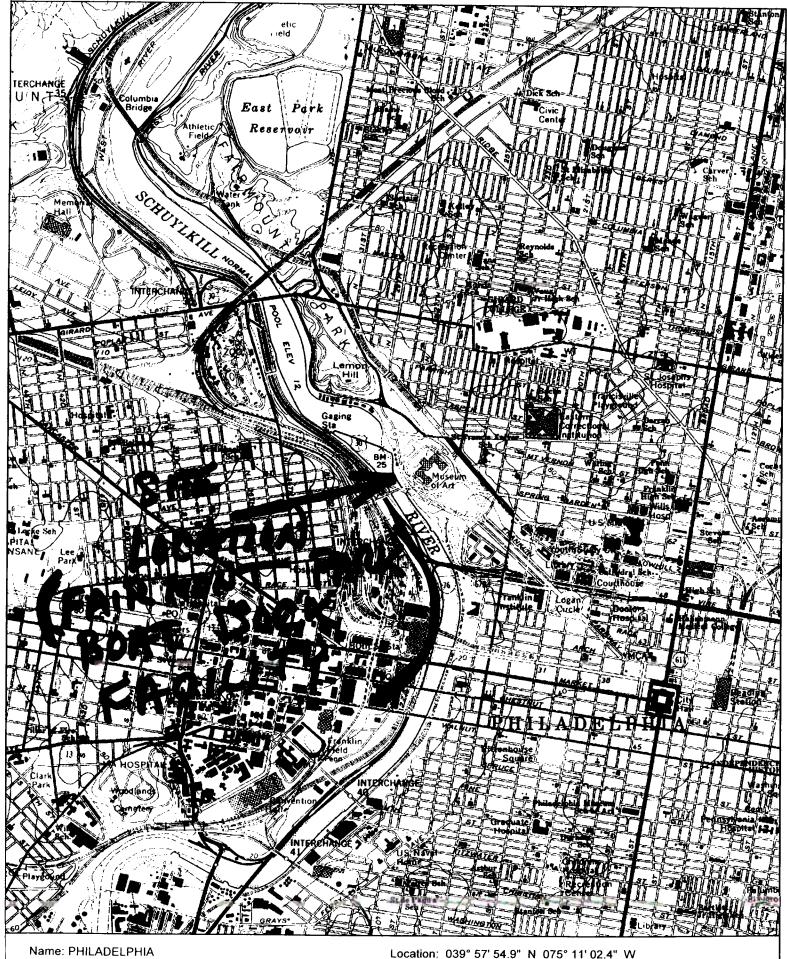
The evaluation of the impact of the work described above on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Any person may request, in writing, to the District Engineer, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state in writing, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Additional information concerning this permit application may be obtained by calling Michael F. Green at 215-656-6836 between the hours of 1:00 and 3:30 p.m. or writing this office at the above address.

Frank J. Cianfrani

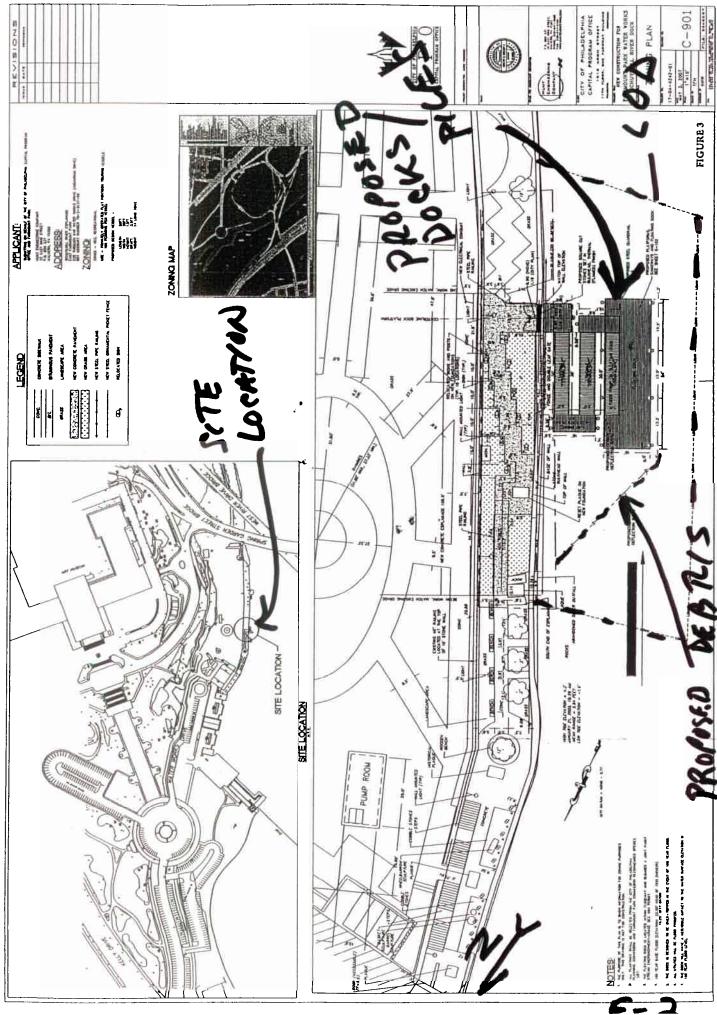
Chief, Regulatory Branch



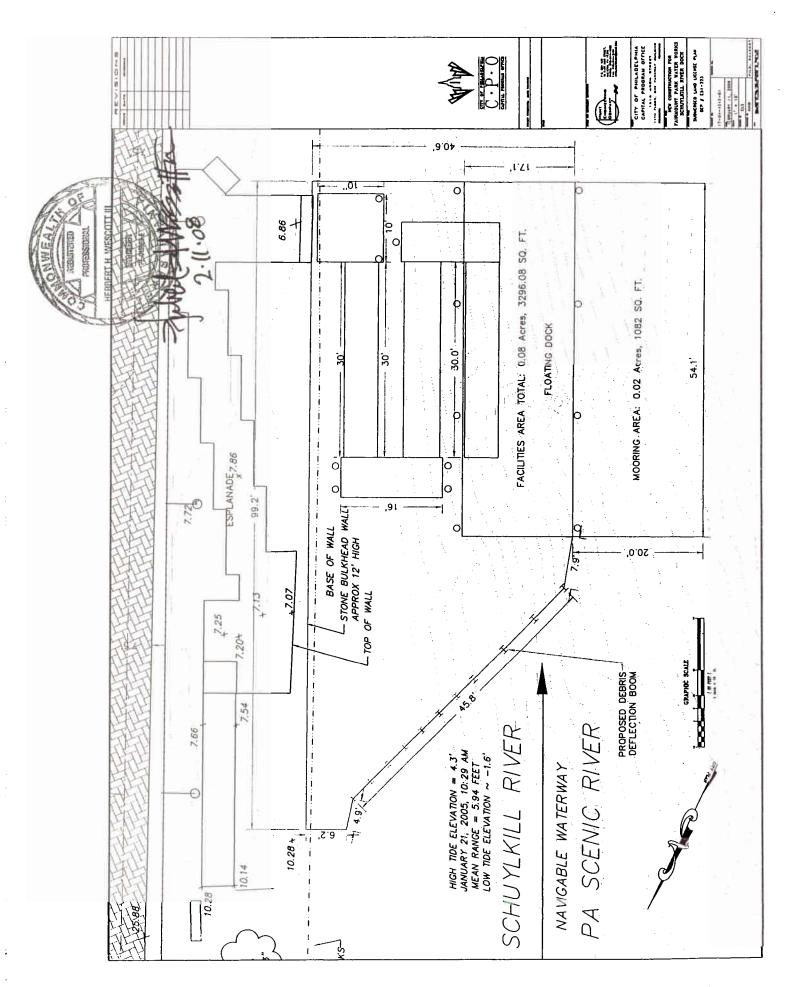
Date: 9/18/107

Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 039° 57' 54.9" N 075° 11' 02.4" W



PROPOSED DEBTILS -



F-3